

ER 67-9847/B

~~5 Feb~~

JAN 1962

✓ and

The Honorable Prescott Bush
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Pres:

This is further to my letter of 21 December 1961 concerning [redacted]

We have now been in touch with Mr. [redacted] who, in a lengthy conversation, proved to be most cooperative and helpful indeed. He was able to add one or two items to our knowledge which had not previously been covered in the press or come to us through other similar interviews, and I am grateful to you for bringing him to my personal attention.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

John A. McCone

John A. McCone
Director

Long

COPY

1-DCI [redacted] vgd 24 Jan 62

Distribution:

Approved For Release 2003/01/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R00280007-2

1 - DCI

1-Leg. G. 1-Ch [redacted] 1 Ch/WH/Div. 1 - ER. 1 - FMC.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

25X1

TO :
ATTN :

FROM :

SUBJECT:

REF :

DATE: 8 January 1962

04/A 3206525

1. Following a request from headquarters on 21 Dec 61, arrangements were made to interview [] at his home on Saturday, the 23rd. This was the first date [] had open.

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2. [] former director and owner of the [] in Havana, Cuba was arrested on 19 April 61. He was held at G-2 headquarters for one month, intensively interrogated and then transferred to La Cabana. There he was held until 5 Sept 61, although no formal charges were lodged against him.

25X1

3. Within two days after his arrest, and after G-2 officers had thoroughly searched and ransacked the records of his [] he was requested to write out a detailed personal biography. This marked the beginning of a searching inquiry into his personal life. He was subjected to questioning for periods as long as twelve hours (1500 to 0300) in a soundproof, air-conditioned room behind the offices of G-2 headquarters. During these periods the interrogator sat at a desk which contained a hidden tape-recorder.

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4. The theme of the interrogation always seemed to center on the notion that [] was a US intelligence officer with ties to the FBI rather than to CIA. [] was a long time employee of the US Federal government before his association with the [] organization and his interrogators pressed this line hard. They told him it was quite logical and understandable that after such long service he would continue an "unofficial" relationship with the government and they tried to get him to uncover his local "network" (which he didn't have) and to reveal his communications technique for transmitting intelligence reports to his US "headquarters". ([] was certain that non-Cubans were behind the analysis of the interrogation)

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5. [] offers the following explanation as a possible background for this persistent line of questioning:

In March 1961, [] made an emergency visit to the US. While he was here he discussed with the President

STC: [] suggested to []

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-2-

8 January 1962

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of [] the fact that a pro-Castro situation was developing among his teachers in Havana. At the President's suggestion he, [] called on the FBI and talked over the matter with an agent who had previously indicated curiosity over the political make-up of the [] teaching staff in Cuba. [] opines that his visit to the FBI at that time may have become known to the Cuban government. For example, his Cuban interrogators were particularly interested in the names and records of the teaching staff and wanted to know how each teacher felt about the Castro regime.

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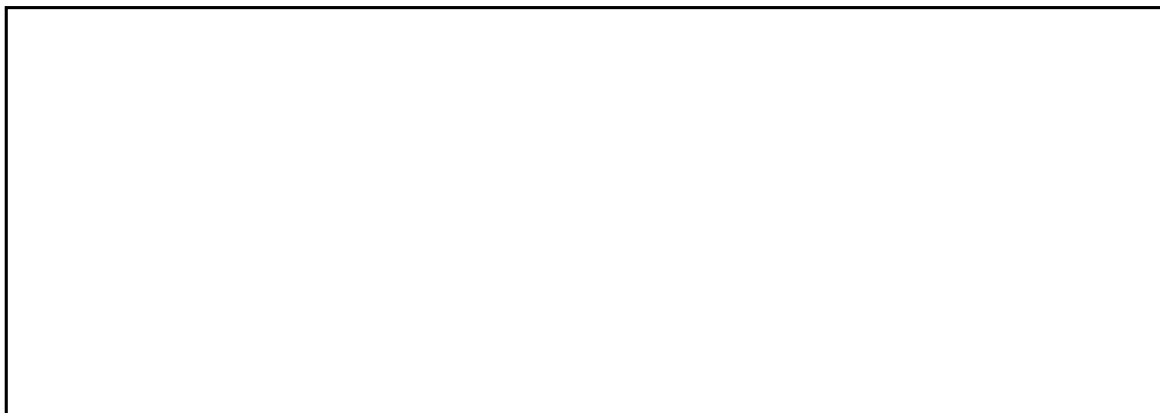
6. When [] was transferred to La Cabana he found only one other US citizen there, a retired US army officer named [] believed to be from Miami, Fla., went to Cuba in 1960, for business reasons and was picked up at the airport in Havana on arrival. He was held incommunicado for 14 months at El Principe and is now serving a 14 year sentence at La Cabana on charges of being the head of the "White Rose" anti-Castro organization. [] is desperately ill with kidney and liver ailments and receives no medical care. His physical condition has kept him from being transferred to the Isle of Pines.

7. [] also heard, through the prison grapevine, that 16 US prisoners are languishing on the Isle of Pines. He was unable to develop any details bearing upon them.

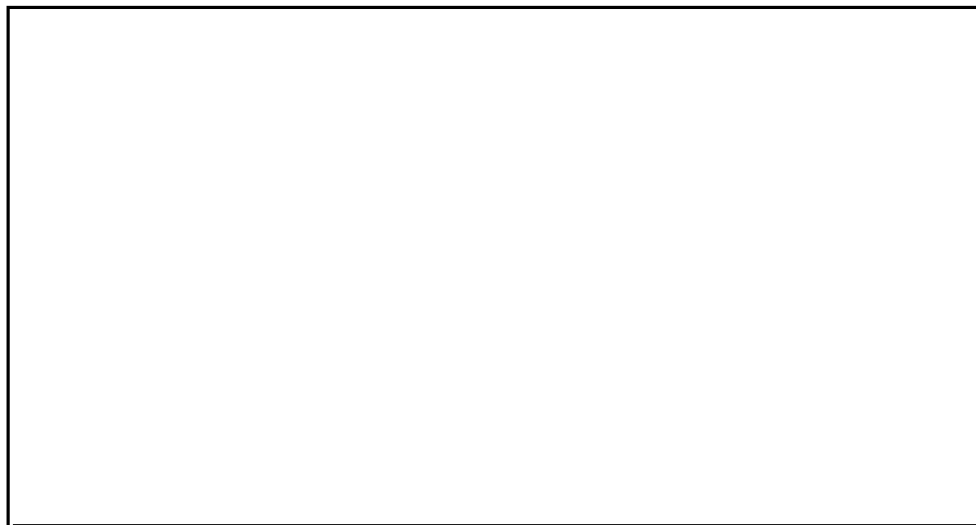
8. Following his release on 5 Sept 61, [] took refuge in the Swiss Embassy and remained there until his departure from Cuba in October 1961. He noted that he experienced a deep sense of insecurity during his sojourn at the Embassy and felt that he and others there could have been kidnapped by the Cubans had they so desired.

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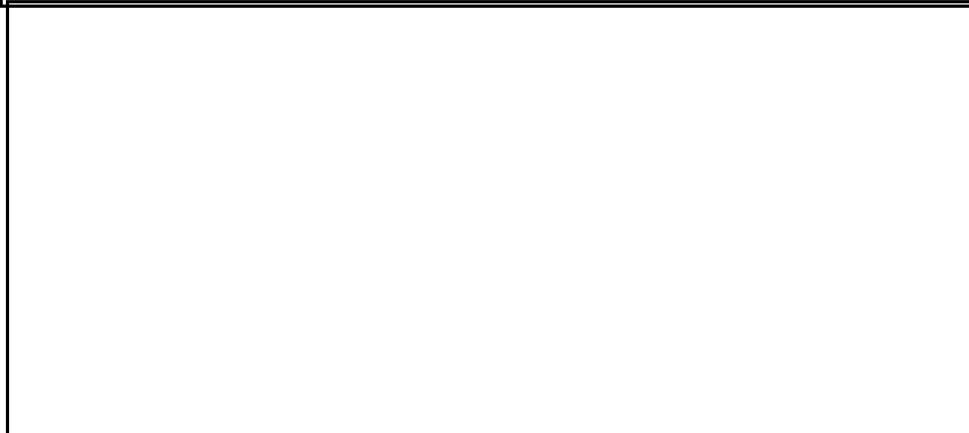
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10. On the other side of the coin, [redacted] identified the following as alert, intelligent, courageous anti-Communist and anti-Castro Cubans who could probably be depended upon to render a service to any cause slanted against the present regime:

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11. Finally, [redacted] offered the following operational suggestion:

No one is quite certain just how [redacted] managed to get

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61-9847/a

21 December 1961

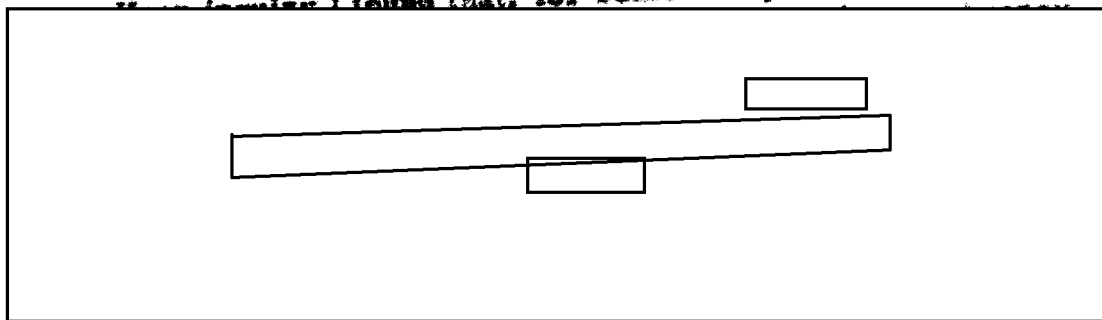
✓ and
The Honorable Prescott Bush
The United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Pres:

I have now received a report on [] and find that Mr. [] was arrested on 19 April 1961 in Havana and placed in the La Cabana Fortress, where he stayed until his release on 5 September 1961. Information received from other sources in the Fortress reveal that Mr. [] was interrogated under glaring lights but was not physically mistreated otherwise. A source reported that while undergoing interrogation under these lights, Mr. [] stated that he worked for U. S. Army Intelligence and the FBI.

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I found that, for some unexplained reason, the



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It was wonderful of you and Dottie to call. I enjoyed seeing you and deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness of me during these difficult days; however, for reasons I explained to you, I feel it best for me to go home.

Warm personal regards and all good wishes.

John
/S/ (by TML)

John A. McCone
Director

HML/mfb

Distribution:

Orig & 1 by hand to Office

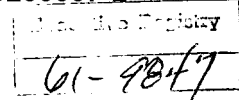
1 - DCI

1 - Chief, WH Division

1 - []

4 - ER

25X1



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 7, 1961

Dear John:

We are heartbroken and we know that you are. Dottie and I could hardly believe the tragic news about Rosemary.

I hasten to send you assurances of my deepest sympathy and full understanding of your feelings at this time.

This morning Dottie and I were talking, and thought how nice it would be for us if you could join us at Hobe Sound, Florida on January 1st and spend at least a few days, perhaps a week there. Phyllis and Doug. Dillon have placed at our disposal their little cottage on the beach, secluded from everything and thoroughly private.

We can think of nothing that would give us more pleasure than having you there with us during that week. We return to Washington on January 8.

You need not hurry your decision on this matter. We shall not invite anyone else even if you should decline. Just tuck it away in the back of your mind and remember that it would give us much pleasure to enjoy the warmth of our friendship with you during that first week in January.

You can advise Mrs. Hampton in my Washington office when you get around to it, and she will notify us. We will be travelling a bit beginning December 19th, but she can reach us all the time.

Again, my dear John, let me say that I can hardly express our deep sense of loss. We feel so closely drawn to you by this tragic event.

With affectionate regard always, I am

Honorable John A. McCone
San Morino, California

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA., CHAIRMAN

HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA.
LYNDON B. JOHNSON, TEX.
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STUART SYMINGTON, MO.
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MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
FRANCIS CASE, S. DAK.
PRESCOTT BUSH, CONN.
J. GLENN BEALL, MD.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

HARRY L. WINGATE, JR., CHIEF CLERK

11-9847

December 7, 1961

Dear John:

We are heartbroken and we know that you are. Dottie and I could hardly believe the tragic news about Rosemary.

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Sincerely yours,

Honorable John A. McCone
San Marino, California

CC-Honorable John A. McCone, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

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27 JAN 1962

62-507a

Honorable Gordon H. Scherer
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Scherer:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning Commander [redacted]. Our Director of Personnel has written to Commander [redacted] and I am enclosing a copy of that letter for your information.

Commander [redacted] was in touch with us in August 1960. His background and experience were reviewed with interest by our people but we did not have an opening in a suitable position for him. I have asked our Director of Personnel to bring his resume to the attention of appropriate operating officials to determine if there is some possibility of our taking advantage of his offer of his services.

Your interest in writing to me about Commander [redacted] is appreciated and we shall advise you of the outcome of our review.

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Sincerely,

John A. McCone
Director

Enclosure

CONCUR: [redacted]

Legislative Counsel

OD/Pers/ [redacted] pra (16 Jan 62)

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - ER w/basic

1 - Leg. Counsel

1 - Subject's file w/cy basic

1 - D/Pers chrono w/held

62-202/b




Congressman Gordon H. Scherer has written to Mr. McGone about your recent generous offer to serve in our organization and has sent us a resume of your general background and experience.

As you know, it has been a few years since we were last in communication with you and we were glad to receive this expression of your continued interest in our work. Appropriate operating officials are considering your file in light of our current needs for personnel and we shall write to you again as soon as they have completed this review.

Sincerely,

E. D. Echols
Director of Personnel

Distribution:

- 0 - Addressee
- 2 - Rep. Scherer
- 1 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- ✓ 1 - ER w/basic
- 1 - Leg.Counsel via A/IG
- 1 - Subject's file w/cy basic
- 1 - D/Pers chrono w/held
- OD/Pers/  pra (16 Jan 62)

GORDON H. SCHERER
FIRST DISTRICT, OHIO

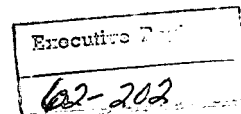
CINCINNATI OFFICE:
1704 CAREW TOWER
DUNBAR 1-0312

COMMITTEES:
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
PUBLIC WORKS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ELIZABETH M. SCHUBERT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

January 5, 1962



Mr. John A. McCone
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCone:

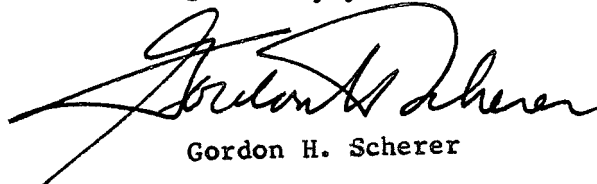
There was a news article in last Sunday's issue of the Cincinnati Enquirer with reference to the resignation as of January 31st of General C. P. Cabell as Deputy Director of the CIA.

This article was seen by Commander [redacted], who thought some reorganization may be taking place. Commander [redacted] is one of the outstanding citizens of Cincinnati, whom I've had the pleasure of knowing for many years. He has completed his business career. Because he is a dedicated American patriot, he is vitally interested in helping his country in some capacity for which his training and experience qualifies him. I realize his age is against him. He is not particularly interested in the amount of salary. I was wondering whether there was any capacity in which he can be used. I am enclosing a background resume.

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Sincerely yours,


Gordon H. Scherer

GHS:jaf
Enclosure

STAT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—FREE



Mr. John A. McCone
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE	INITIALS	
1	Legis. Counsel		Jan 15	<i>[Signature]</i>	
2	D/Personnel			<i>[Signature]</i>	
3					
4					
5					
6					
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	

Remarks:

To prepare reply for DCI signature.
File ordered fr. RC. 1/15/62

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER	
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
LBKirkpatrick	11 Jan 62

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, CALIF. CHAIRMAN
 HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA.
 JOHN STENNIS, MISS.
 STUART SYMINGTON, MO.
 HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH.
 SAM J. ERVIN, JR., N.C.
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 MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
 FRANCIS CASE, S. DAK.
 PRESCOTT BUSH, CONN.
 J. GLENN BEALL, MD.

HARRY L. WINGATE, JR., CHIEF CLERK

United States Senate
 COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Noted by DCI
 25 Jan 62

January 24, 1962

Executive Registry
 62-559

STAT

[Redacted]
 Executive Officer
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, DC

STAT

Dear Mr. [Redacted]

Thank you for sending me that list and
 please thank the Director.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
 Stuart Symington

SS/1

(EXECUTIVE SECRETARY) *[Signature]*

12-458

22 January 1962

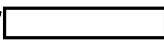
Senator Stuart Symington
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Symington:

Just prior to Mr. McCone's departure for a brief trip out of the city, he asked me to forward the attached list of scientists per a recent conversation he had had with you.


Executive Officer

Attachment

EO/DCI/:mb 22 Jan 62

Distribution:

- Original - Addressee w/att
- 1 - OGC/LC via IG w/att
- ✓ 1 - ER w/cy att
- 1 - JSE w/cy att

EXECUTIVE RES

Long

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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